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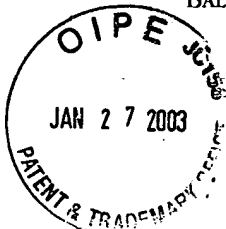
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January 23, 2003

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VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Box: USPTO
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Re: **U.S. National Phase Application of PCT International Application No. PCT/DE99/03259 of HANNIG, Hans-Jurgen and EISERMANN, Ralf for "Panel And Panel Fastening System"; International Filing Date: 09 October 1999; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/019,195; Filed: June 3, 2002; Our Docket No. 009646/00004**

Honorable Commissioner:

Enclosed please find the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) (7 pages total plus 103 reference documents) and PTO-1449.
2. Our post card. Please date stamp and return.

No fee is considered necessary for filing such Information Disclosure Statement before the first office action on the present application. Please charge any unanticipated fees, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No.: 50-1479 (a duplicate copy of this charge authorization is attached).

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Maynard
Reg. No. 46,208

Enclosures

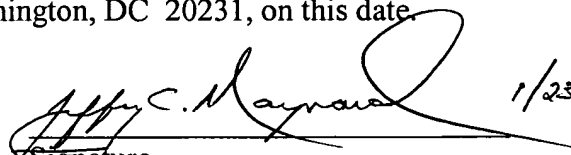
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January 23, 2003

Page 2

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above-referenced documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box USPTO, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this date.


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1/23/03

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Appln. of: HANNIG, Hans-Jurgen
et al.

Appln. No.: 10/019,195

Examiner: To be assigned

Filed: June 3, 2002

Art Unit: 3629

For: PANEL AND PANEL FASTENING SYSTEM

January 23, 2003
09646/4

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Honorable Commissioner:

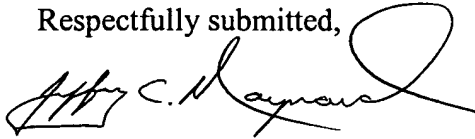
Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO-1149, together with a copy of each of the references listed thereon.

Regarding the foreign language references listed on the enclosed PTO-1449, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), Applicant notes that the cited references are provided as exemplary of fastening systems for fastening a variety of panel structures. Applicant has particularly noted on the enclosed PTO-1449 the drawing figures in each foreign patent document which are particularly reflective of such fastening systems.

Furthermore, as stated in 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information submitted herewith is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b).

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the information submitted herein and to return an initialized copy of the Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO-1449 to Applicant's undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,



1/23/03

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